

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT SINCE THE CLOSE OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR.

Exhibition: At a very short notice the National Archives of India organised an exhibition of original documents, manuscripts and photographs on the occasion of International Seminar on Amir Khusrau from 22nd January, 1976 to 1st February 1976. The theme of the exhibition was 'Khusrau and His Legacy'. It was visited among others by Smt. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India and Dr.S.Nurul Hasan, Union Minister for Education as also foreign delegates attending the International Seminar.

Another exhibition of original records and documents was organised on the occasion of the inauguration of the SWARBICA (South and West Asian Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives pertaining to mutual relations among the countries of the region viz. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka. The exhibition remained open from 11th December to 18th December 1976. The exhibits were mainly culled from the private public records, prescribed literature etc. 106 documents including contemporary photographs were exhibited. The theme of the exhibition was 'South and West Asia - Mutual Contacts.'

COMMITTEES AND CONFERENCES

On the request of Maharashtra State Archives Dr.S.M. Prasad, Director of Archives visited Bombay on 7th April 1976 to advise them regarding construction of the new Archives Building. He also attended the VIIIth International Congress of Archives and other allied Meetings held in U.S.A. (20th September to 17th October 1976), and read a paper on "The Liberalization

of access and use of Archives". He was also unanimously elected as one of the two Vice-Presidents of the International Council on Archives. This is the first time that any Archivist from the Third World has been elected as Vice-President of the Council.

On the invitation of the Government of Saudi Arabia Shri S.A.I. Tirmizi, Deputy Director of Archives visited Saudi Arabia to advise the Government of Saudi Arabia in planning their archival infra-structure. He had had a detailed discussion with the Minister for Higher Education, Government of Saudi Arabia and on his return submitted a comprehensive report which has since been forwarded by the Government of India to the Government of Saudi Arabia. In October, 1976 he was deputed by the Government of India to London for identification of such records as constitute gaps in the series of the National Archives of India but are available in the India Office Library and Records. He completed this stupendous task in a short period of one month and on his way back visited Archives Nationales at Paris and held discussions with Archivists and Sigillographists. On his return he submitted a detailed report.

Shri R.C. Gupta, Deputy Director of Archives visited Kabul for ten days to assist the Afghan Government in setting up their Reprographical Unit.

ADVISORY WORK

Shri M.L. Ahluwalia, Assistant Director of Archives, and two other officers visited Bombay for finalizing the Record Retention Schedule of the records of the Tariff Commission. He also visited Bharatpur in connection with the reported disposal of the records of the Bharatpur State as also Lok Sabha Secretariat and Patiala to study there the problem of